

2008 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	Invasive Species Detection from Remote and Ground-based Mapping		
Region: Use region number ONLY	1		
Station:	Columbia NWR		
Contact Person: Name and Phone Number	Randy Hill 509-488-2668		
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	Columbia NWR has a number of invasive plants that have gone untreated due to lack of staff for detection and mapping. Volunteers can be used to map some areas where larger stands of invasives occur, but the extent of smaller and sparser stands is more troublesome. Cost associated with recruiting and maintaining the volunteer effort needs to be addressed. Using an iterative process of software-assisted photo/image interpretation with ground-truthing assistance by volunteers, both larger, denser stands and smaller, sparser areas of invasive species can be mapped without ground based inventory of the entire refuge. Using photos/imagery with multiple-entry ground-truthing, the resolution for smaller patches can be increased to prioritize early detection. This is projected to be a two-year project for mapping and invasive species distribution, with most work to validate software interpretation during 2008 and additional mapping of weed stands in priority areas during 2009. Because the volunteer base in the CNWR area has been limited, an AmeriCorps volunteer coordinator position would be partially funded through this project. An additional GPS unit would be purchased for ground navigation and mapping, and Jerry Tagestad at Battelle/PNNL would provide the expertise and software, and run the program to produce map products as a cost-share project.		
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name	
	Russian-olive	Elaeagnus angustifolia	
	saltcedar	Tamarix ramosissima	
	common reed	Phragmites australis	
	camelthorn	Alhagi maurorum	
	Russian knapweed	Acroptilon repens	
	swainsonpea	Sphaerophysa salsula	
Project Status:	InProgress		
Project Completion Date	08/31/2009		

or Estimated Completion
(mm/dd/yyyy)

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp	VA_AmeriCorps	VA_Other	
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	none yet			
Total Number of Volunteers:	none yet			
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	none yet			
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	Americorps, WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Adams and Grant County Noxious Weed Boards, Adams County Weed District #1, Inter-county Weed District #52, US Bureau of Reclamation, Dow AgroSciences.			

PROJECT RESULTS

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	GPS unit and software just received. Americorps position finally advertised during September. Two volunteers will begin first weekend of October at 20 hours each. Dow AgroSciences has completed treatment trials on two of the species included, and has provided a gallon of Milestone herbicide toward treatment once populations are mapped.	
Number of Acres Treated:	n/a	
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	none yet	
Number of Acres Restored:	n/a	

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	\$ \$11,700
---------------------	--------------------

Breakdown of Expenditures:

Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies	\$4471	38%
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel		
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract		
Restoration Materials		
Other		
TOTAL	\$4471	38%

Recommendations: (OPTIONAL)

How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?

This program is a key element in detecting and mapping invasive species for treatment. Other rehabilitation projects will depend on information provided from this program. It also will aid in some specific habitat and vegetative interpretation for photos and imagery.

- Return to Main Menu -